

## **Abstract**

**THESIS:** A Tornado Hazard Analysis for Indiana and an Evaluation of the Emergency Management Needs of the Amish Community

**STUDENT:** Amy M. Lindsey

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This study addressed emergency management preparedness and local citizen recovery from a disaster event through a case study of the Elkhart County, Indiana 18 October 2007 tornado. A discussion of the disaster recovery process of Amish households in northern Indiana enables local emergency managers to gain a better understanding of disaster recovery needs for specialized populations.

The primary objective to be addressed by this thesis was to create a tornado climatology for emergency managers to use as part of a comprehensive, local hazard analysis. Secondary to that was to examine the differences in Amish and non-Amish response to a tornado event in Indiana's Homeland Security District 2 and formulate suggestions for tailoring local emergency management programs to this diverse community.